

2001 Medical Parkway Annapolis, MD 21401 443-481-1000 TDD: 443-481-1235 www.aahs.org

# Board Members and Business Leaders

#### **Edward Gosselin**

December 1, 2014

Mr. Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Re: Letter of Support-Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application for Cardiac Surgery Services

Dear Mr. McDonald:

I am writing to state my support for Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need application, to establish a cardiac surgery program. As Chairman of the Board of Trustees I recognize the need for this program in Anne Arundel County, which is also where I reside. A cardiac surgery program at AAMC will help expand the continuum of health care for AAMC, providing the patients it serves with the care they deserve.

The need and demand by patients and their families is clearly present. AAMC's CPORT program is already one of the busiest, high quality programs in the state. In 2013, 500 patients left Anne Arundel County for cardiac surgery and 200 AAMC cardiac patients were transferred to another hospital. This program will allow patients to continue their care at AAMC, alleviating the stress of being transferred to another hospital which is the current experience. And there will be no adverse impact on other Maryland cardiac programs.

AAMC has the resources and commitment to implement a cardiac surgery program of the highest quality for the community. It is partnering with JHU physicians and staff to establish the program, delivering excellent quality of care and innovation close to home. It will complement the high-quality services and facilities AAMC has developed over the years in such areas as oncology, joint replacement, women's services and births.

I understand and appreciate MHCC must approve Maryland hospitals that seek to provide cardiac surgery services. I fully support this program and hope MHCC will recognize the value and benefit of AAMC's application to provide this critical service to our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Edward W Gosselin

December 1, 2014

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-2299



2001 Medical Parkway Belcher Pavilion, Suite 604 Annapolis, MD 21401 443-481-4747 askAAMC.org

Subject:

Letter of Support- Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need

**Application for Cardiac Surgery Services** 

Dear Mr. McDonald,

I am writing to you as a private citizen, as a donor to the cardiovascular program at Anne Arundel Medical Center (AAMC), and as the volunteer Chair of the Board of Directors of the Anne Arundel Medical Center Foundation. I want to offer my enthusiastic support for the Certificate of Need application submitted by AAMC to establish a cardiac surgery program. The community needs and deserves a local cardiac surgical program that complements the existing, high-quality cardiovascular services and facilities that AAMC has developed over the years.

As Chair, I pledge with this letter that the AAMC Foundation Board of Directors is committed to raising a minimum of \$5 million to support the development, implementation and operation of a cardiac surgery program at Anne Arundel Medical Center. In fact, the process to raise these funds began in early 2013 and continues now under the leadership of Cardiovascular Philanthropy Council.

As a community leader, I know that Anne Arundel County is the only county of this size without a cardiac surgery program. This negatively impacts care options for the 1 million plus patients and family members served by AAMC.

I understand and appreciate that the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) must approve hospitals in Maryland that seek to provide cardiac surgery services. I fully support this project, and hope the MHCC will see the clear value and benefit to citizens in this region of AAMC's application to provide this critical service in my community.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely

Ted Pincus

Chair, AAMC Foundation



January 5, 2014

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave. Baltimore, Md. 21215-2299

Subject:

Letter of Support- Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need

**Application for Cardiac Surgery Services** 

Dear Mr. McDonald:

My reason for writing is to add my voice to many others in support of Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application for Cardiac Surgery Services. As vice-chair of AAMC's Board of Trustees and chair of strategic planning, I understand well the need for this service.

Although most of my career has centered on racing sailboats in everything from the America's Cup to crossing oceans and the Olympics, I have been very involved in healthcare through a wide variety of endeavors. From 1987 through 2002 I served on the Board of Directors of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Virginia. During this time we took the company public and joined the New York Stock Exchange as Trigon Healthcare. In 2002 we sold the company to Anthem Healthcare (now WellPoint). This experience taught me about the health insurance industry.

I also know health care as a volunteer fundraiser. In 1993 I signed on as a volunteer with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society to raise funds for blood cancer research and have been Chairman of this program since 1994. In 2012 I completed a \$1.5 million fundraising project to endow a chair in honor of Dr. Aaron Rapoport at the University of Maryland Medical School. I also am a former member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Maryland Medical System.

Unfortunately, I know health care personally as well. From 2003-04 I was successfully treated for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma which included a stem cell transplant. In 1989 I came down with Legionaries Disease that persisted for five months. Thankfully, I survived both of these tough experiences. They have made me appreciate what a strong medical system can do.

Since joining the AAMC Board of Trustees, I have been highly impressed with the quality of its programs and talent of its staff. We have had many in-depth discussions on the need for cardiac surgery. AAMC has an outstanding reputation for high quality cardiac care. The only component missing is cardiac surgery

Six years ago we established a medical partnership with Johns Hopkins. Hopkins is working with our staff to develop our heart program, enhancing our access to the highest quality care and latest advancements.

As you know, when someone has heart failure, getting a person critical care quickly is essential. At present, the time it takes to get a heart patient at AAMC into surgery is unpredictable. High traffic and weather conditions between Annapolis and Washington, D.C. or Baltimore often spell the difference in how a patient survives. In today's world, why disrupt care and move the patient at such a critical time? Last year alone, this happened some 500 times in Anne Arundel County.

Even more significant, Anne Arundel County is Maryland's largest county lacking cardiac surgery. Its aging population is one of the fastest growing segments. Furthermore, when you study the state's geography, a cardiac surgery program at AAMC makes a lot of sense.

AAMC has the infrastructure, talent, partnership and drive to provide a top-flight program. Sending hundreds of patient away each year for heart surgery seems highly inefficient in an era where access and comprehensive care for the patient dominate.

If we care about patients, it's time to change this.

I strongly urge the Maryland Health Care Commission to support AAMC's Certificate of Need.

Thank you.

Gary Jobsoh

Vice Chair, Board of Trustees Anne Arundel Medical Center

Day Jobsun

December 29, 2014

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Subject: Letter of Support – Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application for Cardiac Surgery Services

Dear Mr. McDonald:

As a member of the Anne Arundel Medical Center Foundation Board of Directors, I write in strong support of AAMC's application for a Certificate of Need for cardiac surgery. I have been a member of the Board for several years, following the legacy of my husband, Geaton, and enjoy continuing service to an organization that touches thousands of lives in our community every year.

It's hard to believe that AAMC is prevented from providing a full cardiac program - given its stature in this community. My family, personally, has supported AAMC in helping to advance its cancer program as well as its pediatric emergency care. We are proud to lend our name to these programs and are equally proud of the national acclaim AAMC has earned for such services as well as many others.

Recently I learned that hundreds of people are transferred away from our county each year for cardiac surgery. It's difficult to understand why when AAMC is clearly capable of providing a top cardiac surgery program as evidenced by its track record in developing other clinical programs. It's also difficult to accept the unbearable hardship on the patient and the family when they cannot have this surgery here.

I hope and trust that you will give AAMC all fair and due consideration in its application for cardiac surgery. Hundreds of patients and families are relying upon your good work.

Sincerely,

oAnn DeCesaris

Member

AAMC Foundation Board of Directors

December 29, 2014

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave Baltimore, MD 2125-2299

Subject: Letter of Support - Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application for Cardiac Surgery Services

Dear Mr. McDonald:

I write to urge you to give the highest consideration to Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need for cardiac surgery. Having had the good fortune to perform in a number of military and private sector leadership roles, I am compelled to comment on the importance of adding this capability to the health system that serves our community, county and region.

My professional career began as an Air Force Flight Surgeon. As the story progressed, I commanded health organizations, served in key staff roles, and gained insight into the management of large health and medical care systems. As Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Services Operations and Readiness, I was deeply involved in developing and operating the TRICARE system. With this health system perspective in mind, I strongly endorse AAMC's request to provide cardiac surgery. It is a key missing piece of its heart program.

Furthermore, I wish to comment from the perspective of a Past President of the American College of Preventive Medicine, Past President of the Aerospace Medical Association, and former Chairman of the American Board of Preventive Medicine. As such, I am keenly aware of the potential positive impact addition of this capability would have on the health professionals who perform daily at AAMC in their ability to care for patients. As a current member of AAMC's Board of Trustees, I have been exceedingly impressed with the caliber of our staff and the superb clinical programs our hospital and clinics offer. Every member of the AAMC team is aware of the need for comprehensive, high quality clinical care. The quest to provide excellent health services goes on daily at AAMC.

My wife and I now reside in Annapolis and know that hundreds of people each year must leave our county to receive cardiac surgery. In fact, some 200 patients are transferred out of AAMC alone. This situation is incongruous in a world in which we are looking to hospitals like AAMC to provide convenient and efficient health services to whole populations. In summary, in order to best serve our patients, cardiac surgery services must be provided at AAMC.

Sincerely.

George Anderson, MD, MPH

George K Und

Major General, USAF (retired)

256 Riverside Road Edgewater, MD 21037

November 21, 2014

Mr. Kevin R. McDonald Chief, Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Re:

Letter of Support – Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application for Cardiac Surgery Services

Dear Mr. McDonald:

I am writing to offer our strong support for the Certificate of Need application submitted by Anne Arundel Medical Center (AAMC) to establish a cardiac surgery program. The community needs and deserves a local cardiac surgical program that complements the existing, high-quality services and facilities that AAMC has developed over the years.

Cathy and I have spent the last 16 years supporting AAMC contributing our own funds for development of medical services. I am also one of the biggest companies (ARINC) in Anne Arundel County and look with my employees to AAMC a leader in health care.

Anne Arundel Medical Center is our hospital of choice. A cardiac surgery program at AAMC would create a more seamless experience for patients who need this level of care, and alleviate the burden of having to travel to another hospital after care has already been started at AAMC. A heart surgery program at AAMC would improve the quality and access of healthcare available in our community. The demand here fully supports the need for this service.

I understand and appreciate that the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) must approve hospitals in Maryland that seek to provide cardiac surgery services. I fully support this project, and hope the MHCC will see the value and benefit of AAMC's application to provide this critical service in our community. We know that we have the full support of the community, our Anne Arundel County politicians, as well as Hopkins, who have a shared service arrangement with AAMC.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

C. Belche

Sincerely,

John Belcher Cathy Belcher

# Carlesa R. Finney

7917 Glengary Court Glen Burnie, MD 21061

December 10, 2014

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Subject:

Letter of Support - Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need

**Application for Cardiac Surgery Services** 

Dear Mr. McDonald:

As a member of the community since childhood and the daughter of one former activists supporters of Anne Arundel Medical Center from the time it was a small community hospital on Franklin Street in Annapolis through its many growth phases, I am writing to offer my strong support for the Certificate of Need application they have submitted to establish a cardiac surgery program. My own mother, one of the advocates of whom I previously mentioned would not have had to travel to Washington, D.C. for her cardiac procedure had she been able to go to her own community hospital; just minutes from her home. The community needs and deserves a local cardiac surgical program that complements the existing high-quality services and facilities that AAMC has developed over the years.

Like my parents, Anne Arundel Medical Center would be my hospital of choice if the program existed there and I needed this level of care. A cardiac surgery program at AAMC would create a more seamless experience for patients and alleviate the burden of having to travel, like in our case, all the way to Washington, D.C. when treatment most likely would start at AAMC. It seems only logical to allow AAMC to include cardiac surgery- a much needed service to the community and to the hospital which already has a highly regarded cardiac program.

Not only did my parents benefit from and support the expansion of the hospital and services to all in the community, I have also had the honor of being a member of the Board of Trustees for the past three years. I have a personal and professional interest and fully support this project. I hope the MHCC will see the value and benefit of AAMC's application and approve AAMC's application to provide this critical service in the community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carlesa R. Finney



January 13, 2015

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Subject:

Letter of Support- Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need

**Application for Cardiac Surgery Services** 

Dear Mr. McDonald:

As a resident of Prince Georges County and a longtime member of the Board of Trustees of Anne Arundel Medical Center (AAMC), I write to offer my strong endorsement for a Certificate of Need for AAMC's cardiac surgery program. Such a program is the missing component of a comprehensive cardiac program at AAMC, and it's the one link that will provide seamless care for hundreds of area residents who now must travel out of the county or even out of state to receive this service. With cardiac surgery I have every confidence that the cardiac program at AAMC will achieve the same high quality status of its existing clinical services and facilities.

AAMC serves an area of some one million residents, covering Anne Arundel as well as portions of neighboring counties, including mine. Many regard AAMC as their hospital of choice, as do I. A cardiac surgery program at AAMC not only would improve access of healthcare, but also offer a high quality service to our community.

As an attorney and former member of the Board of the Maryland Hospital Association, I fully appreciate that the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) must approve a hospital's request to provide cardiac surgery services. Please know that I strongly support this project, and hope the MHCC also will realize the importance of AAMC's application not only locally but regionally.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely.

Jason L. Groves, Esq

Executive Vice President & General Counsel

11445 Cronhill Drive Owings Mills, MD 21117



January 30, 2015

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Subject:

Letter of Support- Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need

**Application for Cardiac Surgery Services** 

Dear Mr. McDonald:

As a lifelong resident of Annapolis, a practicing attorney for over 35 years in this community and Chairman of one of the last community banks headquarter in Anne Arundel County, I write to give my full endorsement to Anne Arundel Medical Center's request for a Certificate of Need for cardiac surgery. I also have the honor of serving as a member of AAMC's Board of Trustees. As a trustee, I am keenly aware of how cardiac surgery has been a strong need in this community and, therefore, a part of the hospital's strategic plan for many years. Quite frankly, it is the final missing component in an otherwise highly acclaimed cardiac program at AAMC.

Trustees have been fully briefed on the background for the CON. I understand that hundreds of patients are leaving Anne Arundel County every year for cardiac surgery, many travelling during a highly sensitive time in their care. AAMC alone sends away some 200 patients. Furthermore, Anne Arundel County has more than 550,000 residents and it is the largest jurisdiction without such a program. Given AAMC's stature and its record of achievement in clinical programs and patient-centered care, it seems only logical that the state would want AAMC to offer cardiac surgery, and not just for area residents, but also for the more than one million people in its service area.

On a more personal level, I am aware of individuals who have faced the need to be transferred to other hospitals for cardiac surgery. People in this area are proud to call AAMC their hospital of choice. If they can receive cardiac diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation at AAMC, it makes no sense that they cannot also have that one missing piece – cardiac surgery.

For all these reasons, I urge the Maryland Health Care Commission to endorse AAMC's request for the CON to perform cardiac surgery as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Alan Hyatt Chairman Severn SAVINGS BANK PSB

200 Westgate Circle, Suite 200 Annapolis, MD 21401

www.severnbank.com Phone 410.260.2000 Fax 410.841.6296



December 17, 2014

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Subject:

Letter of Support- Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need

**Application for Cardiac Surgery Services** 

Dear Mr. McDonald,

I am writing to you as Co-Chair of the Cardiac Philanthropy Council at Anne Arundel Medical Center, as a donor to the hospital's cardiovascular program, and as a member of the AAMC Foundation Board of Directors. I come from a family, like most people, where heart disease is a looming threat from generation to generation. I have also seen countless friends and business colleagues suffer from heart attacks and face the risk, fear and burden of having to be transferred to a hospital out of state into Washington, D.C. because AAMC was not entitled to provide the needed cardiac surgery.

I want to offer my enthusiastic support for the Certificate of Need application submitted by AAMC to establish a cardiac surgery program. A jurisdiction of this size needs and deserves a local cardiac surgical program that complements the existing, high-quality cardiovascular services and facilities that AAMC has developed over the years.

As Cardiac Philanthropy Council Co-Chair, I can tell you that our volunteer committee of 13 members has already raised \$500,000 to fund a new state-of-the-art heart station, and has already raised \$737,000 toward a third new Cardiac Catheterization Lab. I pledge that our Council is fully committed to raising a minimum of \$5 million to support the development, implementation and operation of a cardiac surgery program at Anne Arundel Medical Center.

I understand that the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) must approve hospitals in Maryland that seek to provide cardiac surgery services. I fully support this project, and hope the MHCC will see the clear need and benefit to citizens in this region of AAMC's application to provide this critical service in my community.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Pam Batstone

Co-Chair, AAMC Foundation Cardiac Philanthropy Council

## Martin L. Doordan 4908 Sudley's Choice Lane Harwood, Maryland 20776

December 5, 2014

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

RE:

Letter of Support – Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application for Cardiac Surgery Services

Dear Mr. McDonald:

As the former CEO of Anne Arundel Health System, I offer my strong support for Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need application to establish a cardiac surgery program. The desire for a cardiac surgery program is not new. The organization has been seeking to offer this program since the hospital relocated to its current 100-acre campus in 2001. I am pleased that recent changes in the regulations now permit AAMC finally and to officially apply for the CON.

The CON application states all the reasons why this health system should be awarded this service for its constituents. It's ironic that AAMC is now one of the state's largest healthcare institutions, and that it serves State, County and City elected officials throughout most of the year, and yet we cannot provide what is essentially a missing link in our cardiac care.

I urge you to look favorably on this CON request now that this window of opportunity is finally open. It was an unfulfilled dream of mine while honored to serve Anne Arundel Health System. Please make it a reality for this constituency and the thousands of others in this health service area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Martin L. Doordan

**CEO Emeritus** 

## Anthony J. Izzo 4853 Cordell Avenue, Penthouse Bethesda, Maryland 20814

(301) 657-3340 AJI1220@aol.com

December 4, 2014

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299

RE: Letter of Support, Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application for Cardiac Surgery Services

Dear Mr. McDonald:

As a resident of Annapolis, I appreciate the opportunity to offer my support for Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need application to establish a cardiac surgery program. I am well aware of AAMC's longstanding interest and commitment to establish a cardiac surgery program to complement its existing quality heart and vascular services, and to meet the needs of the community.

As you know, AAMC is one of the busiest hospitals in Maryland. It's also located in Anne Arundel County, which is the largest county in the state without cardiac surgery. AAMC is the most isolated hospital in the state from an existing cardiac surgery program, which means heart surgery patients have to endure significant travel time from home to receive surgical care. This is not only stressful for the patient, but also for family members who must travel back and forth to the hospital to be with their loved one.

The hospital already has a highly regarded cardiac program and it seems only logical to allow AAMC to include a remaining piece of this program-cardiac surgery. Given the outstanding reputation of AAMC and its isolation from existing cardiac surgery programs, I urge the Maryland Health Care Commission to approve AAMC's application to provide this critical service in the community.

Thank you for your consideration in this very important matter.

Very truly yours,

Anthony J. izzo

AJI:b

# John P. Kopkowski

1344 Brenda Road Severn, MD 21144 jpkopko@verizon.net

November 24, 2014

Mr. Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Subject: Letter of Support - Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application for Cardiac Services

Dear Mr. McDonald,

I am writing to offer my strong support for the Certificate of Need application submitted by Anne Arundel Medical Center (AAMC) to establish a cardiac surgery program. The Anne Arundel Medical Center is not only my hospital of choice, I am also a member of the hospital's Auxiliary. I have been volunteering for a number of years starting in the Joint Replacement Department's "Joint Camp" and advancing through administrative positions, culminating with becoming the President of the Auxiliary. In addition, I have been a patient in the hospital on many occasions for numerous reasons including receiving multiple joint replacements and undergoing robotic surgery for a radical prostatectomy allowing me to become a cancer survivor. I am writing this letter however because of my most recent reason for being in the hospital. On March 5th of this year I was volunteering in my position at the hospital when I experienced heart problems. I went to my cardiologist and in a very short time, following testing, I was transported to the emergency room and then admitted to the hospital. It was determined that I had considerable blockage and had to have a stent implanted. Because of not having an established cardiac surgery program in place at the hospital, it was imperative that I be transferred to the Washington Hospital Center in DC to have the procedure performed. In addition to the considerable added expenses, my family had to travel a significant distance to be with me.

Through my association with the hospital, both as a patient and as an Auxiliary member, I am able to see first hand the exemplary quality of the doctors, the nursing staff, the administration, the Auxiliary, and all others who make this hospital what it is. It is from this perspective that I can understand why the numerous prestigious awards and accolades are presented: for patient quality; nursing "Magnet" recognition; women's services and its Level III neonatal intensive care unit; cancer care; and, the national recognition of being one of the best hospitals in the United States!

By maintaining and building upon the quality that it now possesses and acquiring the needed Certificate of Need to establish the cardiac surgery program, the Anne Arundel Medical Center will be able to establish a partnership with the acclaimed cardiac surgeons and staff from Johns Hopkins hospital, making it a model for hospitals all across the country.

For all of the reasons that I have mentioned, I urge the Maryland Health Care Commission to approve AAMC's application to provide this critical service in the community. Thank you very much for your kind attention to this critically important matter.

Sincerely yours,

Kopkowski

Date: December 7, 2014

From: Charles E. Moore, Jr.

3483 Olympia Road

Davidsonville, MD 21035

To: Kevin R. McDonald, Chief

Certificate of Need

Maryland Health Care Commission

4160 Patterson Ave

Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Subject:

Letter of Support- Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need

**Application for Cardiac Surgery Services** 

Dear Mr. McDonald:

As a member of the Board of Directors of The Anne Arundel Medical Center Foundation, I appreciate the opportunity to offer my support for Anne Arundel Medical Center's (AAMC) Certificate of Need application to establish a cardiac surgery program. I am well aware of AAMC's longstanding interest and commitment to establish a cardiac surgery program to complement its existing quality heart and vascular services, and to meet the needs of the community.

As you know, AAMC is one of the busiest hospitals in Maryland. It's also located in Anne Arundel County, which is the largest county in the state without cardiac surgery. AAMC is the most isolated hospital in the state from an existing cardiac surgery program, which means heart surgery patients have to endure significant travel time from home to receive surgical care. This is not only stressful for the patient, but also for family members who must travel back and forth to the hospital to be with their loved one.

The hospital already has a highly regarded cardiac program and it seems only logical to allow AAMC to include a remaining piece of this program - cardiac surgery. Given the outstanding reputation of AAMC and its isolation from existing cardiac surgery programs, I urge the Maryland Health Care Commission to approve AAMC's application to provide this critical service in the community.

Thank you for your consideration in this very important matter.

Charles Ehrone J

Sherry Morrissette 727 Sun Point Road Davidsonville, MD 21035

December 10, 2014

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Subject: Letter of Support – Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application for Cardiac Surgery Services

Dear Mr. McDonald:

As the President of the Anne Arundel Medical Center (AAMC) Auxiliary, I appreciate the opportunity to offer my support for AAMC's Certificate of Need application to establish a cardiac surgery program. I am well aware of AAMC's longstanding interest and commitment to establish a cardiac surgery program to complement its existing quality heart and vascular services, and to meet the needs of the community.

As you know, AAMC is one of the busiest hospitals in Maryland. It's also located in Anne Arundel County, my county, which is the largest county in the state without cardiac surgery. AAMC is the most isolated hospital in the state from an existing cardiac surgery program, which means heart surgery patients have to endure significant travel time from home to receive surgical care. This is not only stressful for the patient, but also for family members who must travel back and forth to the hospital to be with their loved ones. I am personally familiar with this because my husband had triple bypass heart surgery five years ago.

The hospital already has a highly regarded cardiac program and it seems only logical to allow AAMC to include a remaining piece of the program – cardiac surgery. Given the outstanding reputation of AAMC and its isolation from existing cardiac surgery programs, I urge the Maryland Health Care Commission to approve AAMC's application to provide this critical service in the community.

Thank you for your consideration in this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Sherry Morrissette President, AAMC Auxiliary December 15, 2014

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Subject:

Letter of Support- Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need

**Application for Cardiac Surgery Services** 

Dear Mr. McDonald:

As a resident of Anne Arundel County and a member of the AAMC Foundation Board, I appreciate the opportunity to offer my support for Anne Arundel Medical Center's (AAMC) Certificate of Need application to establish a cardiac surgery program. I am well aware of AAMC's longstanding interest and commitment to establish a cardiac surgery program to complement its existing quality heart and vascular services, and to meet the needs of the community.

On January 18, 2006, my wife Lynne, a fitness instructor, suffered a heart attack. She was 44 years old with NO indicators, such as family history or medical markers. The expertise of the AAMC staff saved her life that morning. Two days later, she suffered a setback. Due to the lack of cardiac surgery and the supporting capabilities at AAMC, the decision was made to transport her, via helicopter, to Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, MD.

The lack of a cardiac surgery capability and the other supporting capabilities at AAMC could have cost my wife her life, leaving me and our two young daughters without their mother. This is a very real situation for our family and our community. Lives of mothers, fathers, and others are in peril. With the size of the AAMC support region there is absolutely NO reason that our community should be at such a high risk.

The hospital already has a highly regarded cardiac program and it seems only logical to allow AAMC to include a remaining piece of this program - cardiac surgery. Given the outstanding reputation of AAMC and its isolation from existing cardiac surgery programs, I urge the Maryland Health Care Commission to approve AAMC's application to provide this critical service in the community.

Thank you for your consideration in this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Powell, CEO, ARGO Systems, LLC

Board Member, AAMC Foundation Member, AAMC Heart and Vascular Council

474 Fairoak Drive Severna Park, MD 21146 mpowell@argo-sys.com



December 4, 2014

Richard C. Springer, Market President 5 Church Circle Annapolis, MD 21401-1926

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Subject:

Letter of Support- Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application for

**Cardiac Surgery Services** 

Dear Mr. McDonald:

As an employer in Anne Arundel County, I appreciate the opportunity to offer my support for Anne Arundel Medical Center's (AAMC) Certificate of Need application to establish a cardiac surgery program. I am well aware of AAMC's longstanding interest and commitment to establish a cardiac surgery program to complement its existing quality heart and vascular services, and to meet the needs of the community.

As you know, AAMC is one of the busiest hospitals in Maryland. It's also located in Anne Arundel County, which is the largest county in the state without cardiac surgery. AAMC is the most isolated hospital in the state from an existing cardiac surgery program, which means heart surgery patients have to endure significant travel time from home to receive surgical care. This is not only stressful for the patient, but also for family members who must travel back and forth to the hospital to be with their loved one.

The hospital already has a highly regarded cardiac program and it seems only logical to allow AAMC to include a remaining piece of this program - cardiac surgery. Given the outstanding reputation of AAMC and its isolation from existing cardiac surgery programs, I urge the Maryland Health Care Commission to approve AAMC's application to provide this critical service in the community.

Thank you for your consideration in this very important matter.

Sincerely.

Richard C. Springer Market President

Laura Jo Westervelt 1240 Ashby Court Arnold, Maryland 21012

December 9, 2014

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave. Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299

Re: Letter of Support – Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application for Cardiac Surgery

Dear Mr. McDonald:

I am writing to offer my strong support for you to approve the request for a Certificate of Need to perform cardiac surgery at Anne Arundel Medical Center. I am a resident of Anne Arundel County and have a high regard for the quality of care provided by AAMC. I have seen family and friends over and over again be inconvenienced by travel and traffic to visit those who had open heart surgery procedures. A member of our country club died while being transported to another hospital after a heart attack. I do believe that open heart surgery at AAMC would improve the quality and access of healthcare available in our community.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

hura Westerverd

Sincerely,

Laura J. Westervelt

## **Raymond C. Nichols**

Holly Cove • 1156 Woodlyn Road Annapolis, Maryland 21409-6101 Home - 410-974-1970 Office - 410-803-4100

January 16, 2015

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, MD. 21215-2299

SUBJECT:

Letter of Support - Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need

**Application for Cardiac Surgery Services** 

Dear Mr. McDonald:

I am writing to offer my strong support for the Certificate of Need application submitted by Anne Arundel Medical Center (AAMC) to establish a cardiac surgery program. The community needs and deserves a local cardiac surgical program that complements the existing, high-quality services and facilities that AAMC has developed over the years.

Anne Arundel Medical Center is my hospital of choice. A cardiac surgery program at AAMC would create a more seamless experience for patients who need this level of care, and alleviate the burden of having to travel to another hospital after care has already been started at AAMC. A heart surgery program at AAMC would improve the quality and access of healthcare available in my community.

I understand and appreciate that the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) must approve hospitals in Maryland that seek to provide cardiac surgery services. I fully support this project, and hope the MHCC will see the value and benefit of AAMC's application to provide this critical service in my community.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Raymond C. Nichols

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RCN:md

# LAW OFFICES KIM DIGIOVANNI ALUISI, ESQ., L.L.C.

CONTE BUILDING 127 LUBRANO DRIVE, SUITE 300 ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401 www.kdalawfirm.com

Kim DiGiovanni Aluisi, Esq., Principal Angela D. Magruder, Esq., Senior Associate Lisa J. Roberts, Esq., Associate Nichole F.M. Priolo, Esq., Associate Matthew J. Malinow, Esq., Associate Kimberly A. Schindel, Esq., Associate Telephone (410) 224-1332 Fax (410) 224-6518

January 16, 2015

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Re: Letter of Support-Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate
Of Need Application for Cardiac Surgery Services

Dear Mr. McDonald:

As a resident of Anne Arundel County and employer in Anne Arundel County, I appreciate the opportunity to offer my support for Anne Arundel Medical Center's (AAMC) Certificate of Need application to establish a cardiac surgery program. I am well aware of AAMC's longstanding interest and commitment to establish a cardiac surgery program to complement its existing quality heart and vascular services, and to meet the needs of the community.

I personally experienced the adverse effect of the absence of a cardiac surgery program in 2010 when my husband suffered a heart attack and was required to be transported from AAMC to Washington Hospital Center for further evaluation and cardiac surgery. My ability to manage my local business and household, while supporting my husband, was compromised.

As you know, AAMC is one of the busiest hospitals in Maryland. It is also located in Anne Arundel County, which is the largest county in the state without cardiac surgery. I understand that AAMC is the most isolated hospital in the state from an existing cardiac surgery program, which means heart surgery patients have to endure significant travel time form home to receive surgical care. This is not only stressful for the patient, but also for family members who must travel back and forth to the hospital to be with their loved one. As mentioned, I experienced this stress first hand.

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AAMC Certificate of Need

The hospital already has a highly regarded cardiac program and it seems only logical to allow AAMC to include a remaining piece of this program-cardiac surgery. Given the outstanding reputation of AAMC and its isolation from existing cardiac surgery programs, I urge the Maryland Health Care Commission to approve AAMC's application to provide this critical service in the community.

Thank you for your consideration in this very important matter.

Very truly yours,

Kim DiGiovanni Aluisi

KDA/lb

## O. JAMES LIGHTHIZER

1547 Eton Way Crofton, Maryland 21114

January 15, 2015

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Subject: Letter of Support – Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application for Cardiac Surgery Services

Dear Mr. McDonald:

I understand that Anne Arundel Medical Center is applying for a Certificate of Need to provide a cardiac surgery program in Anne Arundel County. As a former Anne Arundel County Executive, member of the Maryland House of Delegates and Secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation, I fully understand the need to serve county citizens with high quality, accessible health care. Given AAMC's reputation and its ability to provide nationally recognized clinical programs, I urge the Maryland Health Care Commission to endorse AAMC's application for a certificate of need for cardiac surgery.

Anne Arundel County remains Maryland's largest jurisdiction without a cardiac surgery program. Apparently, some 500 county residents must leave the area every year for this service. What's even more appalling is that at least 200 of these patients are transferred out of AAMC, often during a highly sensitive phase of their treatment. Not only does this disrupt treatment, but it adds undue hardship to scores of family members, colleagues and friends. As one of Maryland's busiest hospitals, AAMC is fully capable of providing this program efficiently and effectively.

Of added value is AAMC's partnership with Johns Hopkins. Certainly bringing a world-class health provider together with a growing, regional medical institution will mean improved care, access to treatment and cost-savings to hundreds of patients and their families every year.

A program at AAMC would serve not only these residents, but those from the Eastern Shore we well. It would undoubtedly be one of the state's top programs within a very short time.

For all these reasons I urge the Maryland Health Care Commission to do everything in its power to see that AAMC is able to serve our citizens with a comprehensive heart program as this community deserves.

Sincerely

O. James Lighthizer

President of the Civil War Trust



January 16, 2015

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Subject:

Letter of Support- Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need

**Application for Cardiac Surgery Services** 

Dear Mr. McDonald:

I am writing to give my full endorsement to Anne Arundel Medical Center's request for a Certificate of Need for cardiac surgery. As a former AAMC Foundation Board chair, and a longstanding supporter of the hospital, I am very aware that cardiac surgery has been the single, missing link in the hospital's cardiac program.

My knowledge of AAMC's need for this program derives not just from the hospital, but from many years of knowing our county — and surrounding counties — well. I've had the pleasure of serving on several boards in Anne Arundel County, including the Chamber of Commerce and Leadership Anne Arundel. Currently, I chair the foundation for Anne Arundel Community College. In each of these arenas I have had dozens of conversations with business executives and their employees, civic leaders and noted officials asking why AAMC does not have an open heart program, and why so many patients are transferred to other hospitals when they could have the procedure performed so much easier right here?

It's been made clear to me that ours is the largest county in Maryland without an open heart program. If hundreds of people must leave here every year for this surgery, doesn't it make eminent sense to allow AAMC to provide it? Even more telling are the growing numbers of people in an age group where cardiac surgery may become all the more critical.

AAMC has a history of developing new clinical services into nationally recognized programs. Its maternal-fetal program and Breast Center are just two examples. There's no doubt that AAMC would provide a first-rate cardiac surgical program within a very short time, given permission to do so. Its partnership with Johns Hopkins to create the program all but ensures its success.

For all of these reasons I strongly support AAMC in its submission for a CON, and I urge the Commission to endorse it as expeditiously as possible.

# JEROME J. PARKS COMPANIES

December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299

Subject: Letter of Support – Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application for Cardiac Surgery Services

Dear Mr. McDonald,

I strongly support the Certificate of Need application submitted by Anne Arundel Medical Center (AAMC) to establish a cardiac surgery program. Both the community and I need a local cardiac surgical program. AAMC has proven itself over the years by providing outstanding service to the Annapolis Community. However, it has not been able to provide the critical surgical service for heart patients such as myself.

I am 79 years old and have lived in the City of Annapolis since the mid 60's. Fortunately Anne Arundel Hospital was always available to me and my family as needed until approximately 28 years ago when I had my first heart problem, diagnosed in Annapolis. Because of the necessity of an invasive procedure I was given the choice of going to a hospital in Baltimore or DC, I chose Washington.

I was assured that the procedure was not life threatening and I would be home after an overnight. That was true, except within 6 weeks the vessel that had been opened, closed and I was rushed back to DC for a second procedure. Traffic 28 years ago allowed my second emergency trip to take less than 30 minutes. Today, I might not have made it. The first procedure bought me 18 years of quality life until I was again diagnosed with a heart problem.

Again I was interned in DC, this time at George Washington Hospital for major heart surgery. I was the lucky recipient of six (6) by passes. I was in and out of the hospital for stays of varying lengths five different times, lasting over 6 months. My wife who has her own, very active business, transported me and stayed by my side each time and traveled to DC night after night to comfort me.

I am telling you this personal story because so many of my Annapolis friends have a similar story that may not have had all of the tribulations that I did, but have gone through the rigors of traveling to either Baltimore or DC because there was (is) no alternative or surgery for these problems locally.

I have financially supported AAMC since the first year that I moved to Annapolis and will continue to support it, but I am concerned that if a next trip is required of me for a heart procedure, that I may not be as fortunate as in the past.

Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) has the authority to approve this very long overdue Cardiac Surgery Service at AAMC. AAMC Application should be approved because of need to this surrounding area and the Eastern Shore.

The hospital is ready to receive this approval and I personally hope that it will happen as soon as the board reviews the AAMC request.

Thank you in advance for your consideration

Sincerely,

Jerome J. Parks

CC: AAMC

## PORTSHIRE, INC.

P.O. BOX 129 \* 23 WEST STREET \* ANNAPOLIS, MD. 21404 \* (410) 268-4590 FAX (410) 268-3963

November 24, 2014

Kevin R McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Commission 4160 Patterson Ave. Baltimore MD 21215-2299

Subject: Letter of Support-Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application for Cardiac Surgery Services

Dear Mr. McDonald

I am a resident of Annapolis MD and a local small business owner. I relocated here almost twenty years ago to benefit from the quality of live and business opportunities Anne Arundel County offers. I have been blessed with both personal and professional success and spend the majority of my time working with others within this community. In this regard, I have come to recognize Anne Arundel Medical Center as an invaluable asset to Anne Arundel County and the surrounding communities, counting on them to provide the very best in professional health care. As our community grows and ages, the need for local, accessible health care at every level becomes more critical.

Anne Arundel Medical Center has the professional staff, the administrative skills, the superior facilities, and the financial wherewithal to undertake and succeed in developing the highest quality cardiac surgery service. Maryland offers its citizens world class cardiac health care at outstanding institutions in many counties within the state and I believe it is now appropriate to expand the availability of these services to Anne Arundel County with a local provider. I therefore would urge you to approve Anne Arundel Medical Center's application to provide this most critical service.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Barry R Jackson

The Cade Mason Group 78 Riverside Drive Severna Park, MD 21146 January 15, 2015

#### Dear Mr. McDonald:

As a resident of Anne Arundel County for more than 40 years, and a former State of Maryland and Anne Arundel County executive branch official, I feel very fortunate to have an institution as excellent as Anne Arundel Medical Center as my hospital. Heart disease affects me personally as well as many of my friends. With retirees and seniors comprising one of the fastest growing segments of our county, it is critical to have high level heart services nearby.

That's why I strongly endorse AAMC in its request of the Maryland Health Care Commission for a CON to perform cardiac surgery. AAMC already has a renowned cardiac program, from diagnostic services and treatment to a highly effective rehab program. All that is missing is cardiac surgery. It makes no sense to break treatment and compel patients to face a helicopter or ambulance ride to Washington or Baltimore when this surgery easily could be performed at AAMC. I understand that some 200 patients every year face this terrible disruption in care. The toll on them is not only dangerous, but grievously unfair to their family and friends. Only recently I was present as a friend, preparing for cardiac catheterization, needed to be advised of the disturbing possibility of transfer if cardiac surgery was required.

While AAMC serves a county of 500,000+ residents, I've learned that it actually serves an area of some one million residents, which includes Anne Arundel as well as parts of neighboring counties. Many of these residents regard AAMC as their hospital of choice, as do I. Why compel all these people to leave Anne Arundel County and in many cases travel out of state for their heart care?

Not only do I strongly support this project, but I urge the MHCC to endorse AAMC's request for a CON as soon as possible. We have waited far too long.

Sincerely,

Ardath Cade, President The Cade Mason Group

### KAREN L. COOK, ESQ.

1933 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd., Annapolis, MD 21409 443-994-3616 / kcook3109@yahoo.com

January 12, 2015

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Subject:

Letter of Support - Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need

**Application for Cardiac Surgery Services** 

Dear Mr. McDonald:

I am writing to offer my strong support for the Certificate of Need application submitted by Anne Arundel Medical Center (AAMC) to establish a cardiac surgery program. As a long-time resident of Anne Arundel County and one who has used AAMC facilities throughout her life, I can attest that our community needs and deserves a local cardiac surgical program, which will complement the high-quality services, programs and facilities that already exist at AAMC.

As the immediate past Chief Administrative Officer for Anne Arundel County I was responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the County government, including the Department of Health, with a \$1.3 billion budget and 5500 employees serving a population of over 550,000 county residents. It is noteworthy that in 2013, approximately 500 residents left Anne Arundel County for heart surgery, and an estimated 200 AAMC patients were transferred to other hospitals for heart surgery. In my opinion, Anne Arundel County residents and AAMC patients should have improved access to all heart care options.

Anne Arundel County outpaces the nation when it comes to incidences of heart disease and death due to heart disease. Coupled with an aging population, the need for a heart surgery program in our community is strong. It is surprising that AAMC, which is one of the busiest hospitals in Maryland, is located in the largest county in the state without cardiac surgery capability – and it is the most isolated hospital in the state from an existing cardiac surgery program.

AAMC already provides high-quality cardiac services so establishing a cardiac surgery program is the logical next step. Given all of the factors, as well as the fact that AAMC will partner with the acclaimed Johns Hopkins cardiac surgeons and staff, it is clear that a cardiac surgery program at AAMC is needed for the health and well being of County residents and AAMC patients.

Thank you, in advance, for your support of AAMC's application for cardiac surgery services.

Sincerely.

Karen L. Cook, Esq.



John F. Sondberg, CPA Sharon Mullen Wimbish, CPA Edward F. Mullen, Jr., CPA Mary K. Stone, CPA Patrick M. Hantske, CPA

2553 Housley Road • Suite 200 • Annapolis, Maryland 21401 Annapolis (410) 224-4920 • DC (301) 970-2524 • Baltimore (410) 841-2440 • Fax (410) 224-4927

December 4,, 2014

Keven R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Subject: Letter of Support - Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need

Application for Cardiac Surgery Services

Dear Mr. McDonald:

I am writing to offer my strong support for the Certificate of Need application submitted by Anne Arundel Medical Center (AAMC) to establish a cardiac surgery program. The Community needs and deserves a local cardiac surgical program that complements the existing, high-quality services and facilities that AAMC has developed over the years.

I have Coronary Artery Disease. I suffered a heart attack twelve years ago and had to be medivacked to Washington Medical Center hours later. Five years ago, I had to undergo triple bypass at John Hopkins. Both great hospitals, but Anne Arundel Medical Center is my hospital of choice. A cardiac surgery program at AAMC would create a more seamless experience for patients who need this level of care, and alleviate the burden of having to travel to another hospital after care has already been started at AAMC. A heart surgery program at AAMC would improve the quality and access of healthcare available in my community.

I understand and appreciate that the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) must approve hospitals in Maryland that seek to provide cardiac surgery services. I fully support this project, and hope that the MHCC will see the value and benefit of AAMC's application to provide this critical cardiac service in my community.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely

Edward F/Mullen Jr., CPA



Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-2299 Annapolis Volvo
Authorized Volvo Cars Retailer

333 Busch's Frontage Road Annapolis, MD 21409

Telephone: 410-349-8800 Annapolis Telephone: 410-974-4800 Baltimore Telephone: 301-858-7766 Washington

www.annapolisvolvo.com

Subject:

Letter of Support- Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need

**Application for Cardiac Surgery Services** 

Dear Mr. McDonald:

As an employer in and resident of Anne Arundel County, I appreciate the opportunity to offer my support for Anne Arundel Medical Center's (AAMC) Certificate of Need application to establish a cardiac surgery program. I am well aware of AAMC's longstanding interest and commitment to establish a cardiac surgery program to complement its existing quality heart and vascular services, and to meet the needs of the community.

As you know, AAMC is one of the busiest hospitals in Maryland. It's also located in Anne Arundel County, which is the largest county in the state without cardiac surgery. AAMC is the most isolated hospital in the state from an existing cardiac surgery program, which means heart surgery patients have to endure significant travel time from home to receive surgical care. This is not only stressful for the patient, but also for family members who must travel back and forth to the hospital to be with their loved one.

The hospital already has a highly regarded cardiac program and it seems only logical to allow AAMC to include a remaining piece of this program - cardiac surgery. Given the outstanding reputation of AAMC and its isolation from existing cardiac surgery programs, I urge the Maryland Health Care Commission to approve AAMC's application to provide this critical service in the community.

Thank you for your consideration in this very important matter.

Sincerely,

ANNAPOLIS YOLVO/ANNAPOLIS SUBARU/ANNAPOLIS HYUNDAI

Frank Ferrogine

President

Telephone: 443-837-1400 Fax: 443-837-1439 annapolissubaru.com



December 5, 2014

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-2299



Subject:

Letter of Support- Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application for Cardiac

**Surgery Services** 

Dear Mr. McDonald:

As a resident and employer in Anne Arundel County and a volunteer member of the AAMC Foundation, I appreciate the opportunity to offer my support for Anne Arundel Medical Center's (AAMC) Certificate of Need application to establish a cardiac surgery program. I am well aware of AAMC's longstanding interest and commitment to establish a cardiac surgery program to complement its existing quality heart and vascular services, and to meet the needs of the community.

As you know, AAMC is one of the busiest hospitals in Maryland. It's also located in Anne Arundel County, which is the largest county in the state without cardiac surgery. AAMC is the most isolated hospital in the state from an existing cardiac surgery program, which means heart surgery patients have to endure significant travel time from home to receive surgical care. This is not only stressful for the patient, but also for family members who must travel back and forth to the hospital to be with their loved one.

The hospital already has a highly regarded cardiac program and it seems only logical to allow AAMC to include a remaining piece of this program - cardiac surgery. AAMC already has the infrastructure—facilities and space—to provide cardiac surgery. Building a program would not require significant capital expense.

Given the outstanding reputation of AAMC and its isolation from existing cardiac surgery programs, I urge the Maryland Health Care Commission to approve AAMC's application to provide this critical service in the community.

Thank you for your consideration in this very important matter.

Sincerely

Patrick Wergin Vice President





935 West Street Annapolis, MD 21401

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Telephone: 410-295-1234 Fax: 410-295-1231

December 5, 2014

Kevin R. McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

Subject:

Letter of Support- Anne Arundel Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application for Cardiac

**Surgery Services** 

Dear Mr. McDonald:

As a resident and employer in Anne Arundel County, I appreciate the opportunity to offer my support for Anne Arundel Medical Center's (AAMC) Certificate of Need application to establish a cardiac surgery program. I am well aware of AAMC's longstanding interest and commitment to establish a cardiac surgery program to complement its existing quality heart and vascular services, and to meet the needs of the community.

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The hospital already has a highly regarded cardiac program and it seems only logical to allow AAMC to include a remaining piece of this program - cardiac surgery. AAMC already has the infrastructure—facilities and space—to provide cardiac surgery. Building a program would not require significant capital expense.

Given the outstanding reputation of AAMC and its isolation from existing cardiac surgery programs, I urge the Maryland Health Care Commission to approve AAMC's application to provide this critical service in the community.

Thank you for your consideration in this very important matter.

Sincerely,

AMNAPOLIS HYUNDAI

Barbara Stockford

Partner